



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION IX
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December 24, 2002

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
CALTRANS, 1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Abhijit Bagde, Federal Programming (MS 82)

Dear Mr. Morales:

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 1 to the rural, non-Metropolitan Planning Organization (non-MPO) portion of the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP)) submitted with your letter dated November 6, 2002. This amendment adds a Section 3037 bus project and a Section 5311 STIP project into the FSTIP.

We accept this Amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this FSTIP amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed (40 CFR Sections 93.126 and/or 93.127). This finding has been coordinated with the Regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

This letter also constitutes approval, and inclusion of Amendment No. 1 for the rural non-MPO portion into California's FY 2003 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program with the understanding that FTA funding approval of projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements. Our approval is based on Caltran's assurance that the funding for these projects does not adversely impact the FSTIP Financial Plan.

Sincerely,

for Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

cc: FTA, Donna Turchie

FHWA, Wade Hobbs

EPA Region IX, Karina O'Conner

FTIP Binder

Caltrans

Federal Resources Branch, Dick Petrie

HQ Transportation Programming, Abhijit Bagde (FAX: 916-654-2983)

Office of Local Programs, Terry Abbott